



# 2010 Legislative Session Preview

## Bill Hinkle & Judy Warnick

13th District State Representatives



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### Leadership:

Republican Whip

### Committees:

- Technology, Energy & Communications
- Health Care & Wellness
- Ways & Means

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### Committees:

- Capital Budget (Ranking)
- Agriculture & Natural Resources
- Judiciary
- Rules
- Audit Review & Oversight

### Inside ...

- Upholding the 10th Amendment
- Budget and Taxes
- Made in Washington
- Update on the Kittitas County Water Issue...

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The 2010 legislative session began Jan. 11 and already some are proposing tax increases. We disagree, and see this year as an opportunity for the state to more effectively deliver services. Families and employers have had to make difficult decisions to reduce their budgets to match their revenue, and government must do the same.

Our focus this year:

- getting people back to work
- providing meaningful health care reform
- addressing water and growth management issues

We look forward to working with all of our colleagues in the House to provide solutions for some real challenges in our state.

Please don't hesitate to contact us with questions or concerns – we appreciate hearing from you.

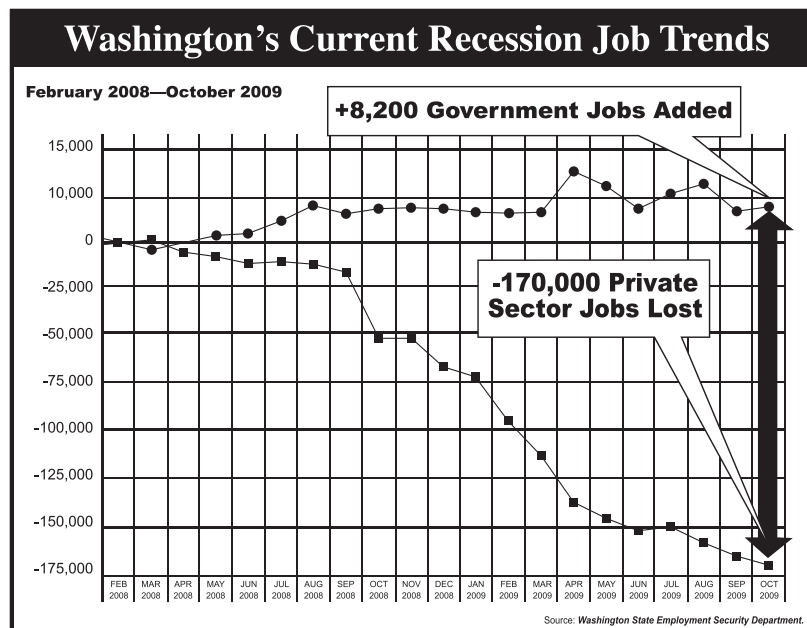
Sincerely,

*Bill Hinkle*

Bill Hinkle  
State Representative  
13th District

*Judy Warnick*

Judy Warnick  
State Representative  
13th District

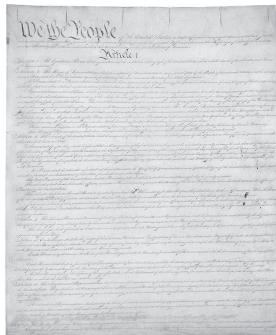


*This chart demonstrates how out of touch government is with the real folks who are struggling to make ends meet.*

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## UPHOLDING THE 10TH AMENDMENT

Congress is going beyond its authority to enact legislation and has forgotten about the 10th Amendment, which states that any power not delegated to the federal government belongs to the states and individuals. We want to send a message to those in Washington, D.C. that states and individuals have not forgotten their powers. We are supporting legislation that would:



- protect employers and individuals from fines and penalties for not participating in the **federal health care legislation** recently passed (HB 2669);
- require **state** legislative authority to participate in a possible **federal cap and trade** or **vehicle miles traveled** program (HB 2708);
- protect **firearms** and ammunition made and kept in Washington from federal regulations (HB 2709);
- and send **other messages supporting the 10th Amendment** and addressing federal taxes, the right to self-defense, search and seizure and enforcing a constitutional government.

## BUDGET AND TAXES

Even after dealing with a \$9 billion shortfall last year, **the state now faces a \$2.6 billion deficit** for the supplemental budget. In a 60-day session, we will have very little time to address this shortfall.

- **Dec 2009:** Governor Gregoire released a balanced 2010 supplemental budget as required by the constitution. The proposal included gutting levy equalization, the Basic Health Plan and a heavy reduction in the state need grant. The governor stated that she could not support her budget and **would be proposing tax increases**.
- **Jan 12, 2010:** In her State of the State address, the governor called for **government reform** and **helping businesses**. We couldn't agree more, but we don't see how tax increases will help this economic downturn.
- **Jan. 14, 2010:** The House holds a public hearing on **the first tax increase: a tobacco tax**. We need your help to fight this and many other taxes that could harm employers and hardworking families.

- **Jan. 11-March 11, 2010:** The Legislature must pass a balanced budget. **We will advocate for streamlining government and prioritizing education and the most needy.** If you have ideas, please pass them on to us.

## AN UPDATE ON THE KITTITAS COUNTY WATER ISSUE...

The county commissioners and the Department of Ecology continue to work on an agreement after the devastating well moratorium. We're proposing legislation to:

- require that **before DOE imposes another moratorium**, the agency must provide research to support such an action, and have a plan for existing well users
- review and provide plans for local governments to **plan for future water supply**
- **prohibit the metering** of exempt wells



We're addressing this situation for the sake of our region's economy and for the sake of the many builders, employers and families who have been harshly impacted by DOE's decision.

We're following this local issue closely and hope that a resolution can be reached to address the massive economic impact this had to our region.

Whatever the final solution looks like, and whether it comes from the county level or through the Legislature, we must make sure it is **transparent** and **predictable** for everyone involved.



*As the Republican Whip, Rep. Hinkle is responsible for rounding up members when it is time to vote and making sure they are on the same page when voting on legislation.*

# 2010 Legislative Session Preview

## MADE IN WASHINGTON

**It will be the private sector, not government intervention which will lead to job creation and the turn-around of our state and national economies**

While business magazines rank our state as one of the best to do business, they do not take into account our unique an exorbitant taxing structure. We have to make it easier to do business in Washington to **get people working again.**

In the 13th District, **more than 5,000 people are looking for work.** We personally know folks who are unemployed for the first time in their adult lives and other folks who have been looking for work for more than a year.

We want to **make "made in Washington" mean something again:** to foster the growth of Northwest-born companies who create good-paying jobs for generations to come. Our common-sense, job-creating solutions are below.

### **Address the high costs of hiring staff by:**

- reforming the state's workers' compensation system which will lower payroll taxes and put more money into the pockets of workers; and
- protecting the unemployment insurance reforms passed last year.

### **Cut state agency red tape by:**

- requiring that agency's take more time before enacting costly and burdensome rules; and
- requiring that agencies respond to a permit application within 90 days or automatically grant a permit request;

### **Create a health care marketplace that fosters an affordable and accessible system by:**

- allowing innovative and flexible "core benefit" plans;
- providing ability to purchase health insurance across state lines; and
- offering a business and occupation tax credit to employers for providing health insurance.

### **Ensure affordable and abundant energy by:**

- adopting hydropower as a clean energy.

### **Enact policies that ensure a fiscally-responsible budget by:**

- requiring the Legislature pass a balanced budget; and
- protecting voter-approved Initiative 960, which requires a two-thirds majority to pass a tax increase.



Our colleagues have presented these ideas to the governor and the majority party, and we hope that we can work on these solutions together to secure a stronger economic future for our state.

The Legislature must do all it can to preserve and recruit jobs in Washington by supporting this pro-jobs agenda in the 2010 legislative session. We hope you will join us in supporting these reforms and we will continue to update you on the progress of our proposals throughout the legislative session.





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*Rep. Warnick asks questions during a committee hearing in Olympia. She serves as ranking member on the Capital Budget Committee.*

## JOIN US IN OLYMPIA...

This year will be challenging, fighting for job opportunities, property rights, the 10th Amendment and more. **We need your help. Sign up for our e-mail updates on our Web sites** so we can let you know about upcoming hearings. Then give us a call and we'll help you arrange plans to come and testify on bills.

Warnick: [www.houserepublicans.wa.gov/Warnick](http://www.houserepublicans.wa.gov/Warnick)

Hinkle: [www.houserepublicans.wa.gov/Hinkle](http://www.houserepublicans.wa.gov/Hinkle)

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